

## **News Roundup -- Homestretch for park drive/Play for Cure on July 14-15/Kiwanis seeks top citizen/Clear Path hits milestone**

**By Review staff**

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### **Homestretch for park drive**

The effort to create a 50-acre waterfront park on the south shore of Eagle Harbor received a \$650,000 boost from various sources last week, sparking a final fund-raising push.

"We're very happy with the way things have gone," said Bainbridge Island Land Trust President Sallie Maron, who has overseen much of the fund-raising effort. "We definitely feel we're in the final stretch." A unanimous City Council vote Wednesday formally authorized the city to transfer funds totaling \$650,000 to the land trust for the creation of Pritchard Park.

About 22 acres were secured last year after \$4.9 million was raised for the park's western portion. Recent grants from the county (\$350,000), the state (\$2 million) and federal government (\$500,000) combined with numerous private donations to acquire the remaining 28 acres.

Portions of these financial sources were used in the city-approved contribution. Only \$212,000 remains to be raised in the overall \$8 million effort to purchase the park property.

Maron hopes to gather enough private donations by October to complete the park's purchase.

The park would be named for the late Joel Pritchard, an islander, Republican legislator and Washington lieutenant governor. The site will include a memorial to Japanese Americans who were interned during World War II, open space, wooded areas, a public beach and possibly a Suquamish-style longhouse.

"It's such a special place, a real defining piece for our island," Maron said.

— Tristan Baurick